

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. Of: Masaki YAMAMOTO

For: OPTICAL ELEMENT SUCH AS MULTIPLE FILM REFLECTOR....

DOCKET: SHIG 19990241

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests that the following amendments be made to the above-identified application prior to examination.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3, 6, 10 and 12-19 to read as follows:

3. (Amended) An optical element according to claim 1, wherein the optical element is used for soft X-rays, and the multilayer film is formed of molybdenum layers and silicon layers.

6. (Amended) An optical element according to claim 4, wherein the optical element is used for soft X-rays, and the correction film uses one of molybdenum, ruthenium, rhodium, and beryllium or a combination thereof.

10. (Amended) An optical element forming method according to claim 8, wherein cutting-away of the multilayer film is controlled by detecting a difference between a plurality of materials that forms the multilayer film.

12. (Amended) A microscope using an optical element according to claim 1.